GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2225
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2017
Encroachment on Railway Land
Chauhan Shri Nihal Chand

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total Railways Land/assets under illegal occupation in the country;

(b) the effective steps taken by the Government to prevent such illegal occupation of railway land and to get back the encroached land; and

(c) whether the Government is preparing any roadmap to check such incidents in future and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN)

(a) to (c): At present, out of 4.73 lakh hectare land assets available with Indian Railways, approximately 879.51 hectare (0.18%) land is under encroachment.
Most of the encroachments are in the approaches of the Stations in Metros and big cities. For these encroachments, Railways carry out regular surveys and take action for their removal. If the encroachments are of a temporary nature (soft encroachment) in the shape of jhuggies, jhopries and squatters, the same are got removed in consultation and with the assistance of Railway Protection Force and local civil authorities. For old encroachments, where party is not amenable to persuasion, action is taken under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 (PPE Act, 1971), as amended from time to time. Actual eviction of unauthorized occupants is carried out with the assistance of State Government and police. Removal of encroachment is a continuous process, as a result of which, in last three years and current year (up to January 2017) 79.56 hectares of encroached land has been retrieved. Railways have taken measures to protect Railway land assets from encroachment which include licensing of land to Railway employees for Grow More Food(GMF) scheme, provision of boundary wall, fencing, tree plantation at vulnerable locations.
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